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December 17, 1962

NSC Executive Committee Record of Action, December 17, 1962, 3:00 PM
Meeting No. 37

1. Following further discussion of the "Operating Plan for the Congo," the President authorized:

- a. Informing U Thant (1) that we are willing to supply the military equipment, including planes, which he has requested; (2) that we are going to talk to Spaak and others about our Congo plan and (3) that we will be in touch with him again in the next few days;
- b. Informing Spaak of what we plan to do, including our willingness to consider sending a U.S. fighter squadron to the Congo in support of the UN if necessary and if invited to do so by Adoula;
- c. Informing Adoula of our plans, if these plans are acceptable to Spaak;
- d. Sending a military mission to the Congo immediately (1) to determine the feasibility of basing and protecting a U.S. air squadron there and (2) to estimate the capability of the UN forces there to undertake successful military action;
- e. Informing the British at Nassau of our plans in general.

2. President made clear that if Tshombe was not cowed by the new UN effort, including the introduction of a U.S. air squadron, we would then decide on further actions in the light of the requested military appraisal.

3. A U.S. statement for use in the event it is decided to make separate and disagreed U.S. and USSR statements on Cuba to the UN Secretary General was revised and agreed upon.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NSC 68 8/1/78
By Shu, NARS, Date 9/6/78

Infantry
McGeorge Bundy

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